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THE MATCH FAILED.

NELLIE GRANT'S ROMANCE WHILE VISITING AT WEST POINT.

Her Father Had a Few Months Before Been Inaugurated President of the United States, and She Was In Consequence the Belle of the Catherings.

It was the closing week of commencement exercises at the military academy in June, 1869, and historic West Point had never appeared more brilliant. Distinguished guests from all over the country were assembled to witness the ceremonies, and the wealth and fashion of New York, Brooklyn, Boston, Phila-delphia, Baltimore, Washington and other cities crowded Roe's and Cozzen's hotels and the private cottages to their fullest capacities. First and foremost of all those there was the newly inaugurated president of the United States, Ulysses S. Grant, then in the splendor of his fame. Then there was General William T. Sherman, his successor in command of the army; General Rufus Ingalls, General Quincy Gillmore and a host of lesser military chieftains and also the officers of the academy resplen-dent in uniform, besides many civic dig-

Mrs. John A. Dix and Mrs. John Bigelow occupied cottages at Cozzen's, and the Rev. Henry Ward Beecher was present to deliver the sermon to the graduates. The glories and the chivalry of West Point still clung to it and made it an attraction to the fair sex. Benny Haven's, with its many legends of clandestine cadet revelries, yet remained at the river's edge. The faculty were all noted gray haired professors who had been engaged in tutoring future military heroes for half a century, some of them. Their dean was Denis Mahan, professor of mathematics, who was afterward to seek a suicide's death in the Hudson

President Grant was accompanied to the academy by Mrs. Grant and their daughter, Nellie Grant. The president's son, Frederick Dent Grant, was a cadet in the third class, and for that reason the exercises had a special attraction for the members of the Grant family. General Thomas G. Pitcher, the superintendent of the academy; Colonel Henry M. Black, the commandant of the cadet corps; Lieutenant Colonel John M. Hildt, who was wooing at the time Miss Jerome, a daughter of Leonard Jerome, and whom he afterward married; Edward C. Boynton, the adjutant of the post, and the rest of the officers had prepared an elaborate and interesting programme for the commencement, and during the week or longer that President Grant and his family were at the Point there was mortar practice, signal service movements, the building of pontoon bridges, cavalry maneuvers and other object lessons in the art of war, with parades every afternoon on the plateau by the battalion of cadets, and a concert fterward by the government band.

Among the junior officers of the su-

perintendent's staff was John E. Hosmer, a lieutenant of infantry, who was assigned as escort to the president and his family during their stay at West Point. He was a native of Massachusetts, of good family and attractive personal ap-pearance. The daughter of the White House, Miss Nellie Grant, was new to society in the east, and the young lieutenant devoted much time to her entertainment. He was her daily chaperon over the military grounds and explained to her the many points of historic inter-est there. He arranged private entertainments and parties in her honor at the houses of the professors, while old dow-agers, with little else to do than watch passing events, noted the growing intimacy of the daughter of the White House and the junior lieutenant, looked on the young couple approvingly and said to each other, "A match, sure."

The commencement of the academy

terminated on the evening of Saturday, June 14, with the ball of the graduating class at Roe's hotel. It was a brilliant gathering, and in the opening quadrille there was a conspicuous set composed of President Grant and Miss Strother of Washington, General Sherman and Mrs. Grant, Lieutenant Hosmer and Miss Nel-lie Grant and Colonel Audendried, chief of General Sherman's staff, and Miss Kinzey, a southern belle. The grizzled hero of the march to the sea had his eyes open to what was going on, and in one of the pauses of the dance said to his partner, Mrs. Grant, in his quick, abrupt way, what the dowagers had previously remarked, "Looks like a match," nod-ding with his head toward Miss Grant and her lieutenant escort. Mrs. Grant

had her eyes opened.

The next day (Sunday) Nellie Grant remained in seclusion in the hotel, and bright and early on the following Monbright and early on the following Mon-day morning was hurried away by her mother to Washington, while the presi-dent departed for the east in response to public invitations. Lisutenant Hosmer quitted West Point a few days later and went to his home in Massachusetts, where he died in a few months. Afterward the president's daughter was married to the Englishman, Algernon Sartoris, who died in Italy.—Brooklyn Eagle.

Ancient Superstitions Omens and superstitions have their origin in the belief suggested to primitive man that the elements and everything pertaining to creation had souls and intelligence. This belief is found among the ancient Aryans, the Romans, the Celts, the Teutons, the Arabians, the Chinese, the American Indians and, in fact, in every nation. That human natur times is shown by the analogy existing between early mythology, the source from which the superstitions of the present day are derived.—New York Tele-

Gayly Decked Immigrants A picturesque party of Italian immi-grants landed at the barge office the other day. There were about a dozen men and six or eight women. The men wore clothing of a rough, buff colored material, with scarfs and caps of brighter hues. The women displayed a variety of gay colors-red, yellow, blue and pink predominating. Each woman was bare-headed, but each wore ribbons in her hair and a bright colored shawl or apron. The strangers attracted a great deal of attention as they straggled up Broadway from the Battery with their bundles. They evidently found as much novelty in their surroundings as the New York-

ers found in their quaint appearance. The women apparently had the keenest

observation and pointed out to their

more stolid male companions various ob-

jects as the party moved along. At Rector street they saw a flower stand, and half a dozen of the women gathered about it and gave vent to voluble expressions of delight. They dragged some of the men before the stand and gesticulated violently. The men tried to pull away from them, but could not. After awhile some pieces of money came out of the men's pockets, and with much eagerness and chattering the women selected one flower apiece. The ven-dor took his pay out of the handful of American silver tendered him, and the party moved on, both men and women as joyous as a lot of school children.-New York Times.

A Friend of the Farmer.

The hop growers of Otsego county have discovered what naturalists have long been trying to make farmers understand-that skunks, instead of being their enemies, as they formerly supposed are among their most useful friends. As one hop grower expressed it, "Nowadays we protect skunks as carefully as we do

Hop yards, it appears, are infested by a certain kind of grub which gnaws off the tender vines at the root, and this grub is the favorite food of the skunk. As a general thing the skunks sally forth at nightfall, but now and then they are to be seen at work in broad daylight. The proceeding is an interesting one to watch

The skunk begins his quest on the edge of the yard, where he cocks his head over a hill of hops and listens. If a grub is at work upon one of the four trailing vines, his quick ear is sure to hear it. At once he begins to paw up the earth, and presently he is seen to uncover the grub and swallow it with unmistakable relish. Then he listens again, and if he hears nothing proceeds to the next hill. And so he goes on till he has had his fill

Now that the skunks are no longer molested, they have become compara-tively fearless. Sometimes, we are told, they keep up their operations even while the cultivator is driven between the rows.-Cor. New York Tribune

The Work of a London Writer.

"T. P." stands alone among popular journalists in that practically all his work is done for one paper, The Weekly Sun, of which he is the founder and editor. He knows as well as any one the value of his own pen, and he takes care to write the most important parts of the paper himself and to append his famous initials to all his work. A casual glance through a number of the paper will serve to show the amount and variety of his weekly labors.

First there is a review of the "book of the week," which invariably extends over five closely packed columns. This article, always conspicuously brilliant, would be a good two days' work for any writer. Then there are the editorial notes from one to two columns; an interview with some celebrity, one column; theatrical critiques, two or three columns, and lastly a few paragraphs on the correspondence page. All these are signed "T. P." Yet Mr. O'Connor contrives to keep in the forefront of the political battle and also to write an occasional book.-London Tit-Bits.

Two Charges.

There was a suit tried in the United States circuit court at Raleigh some years ago in which a Baltimore commission house was plaintiff and General Bryan Grimes, who led the last charge at Appomattox, was defendant. Judge Bond, who presided, was strongly anti-southern during the war and a citizen of Baltimore. The late Governor Fowle, who was a very eloquent lawyer, repre-sented General Grimes, and in his ap-peal to the jury laid full stress on the character and record of his client and dwelt eloquently on the "last charge at Appomattox." Coming out of the court, he said to the opposing counsel (now Judge Fuller of the United States land claims court), "Fuller, that last charge at Appoint has got me the jury."
"Yes," said Fuller very quietly; "and
that last charge of Judge Bond has got
me the verdict." And so it proved.— Green Bag.

Various Sources of Silk.

Silk worms are not the sole source of the production of silk; it is also obtained from several vegetable substances, but of an inferior and less durable description. Excellent colored silk is obtained from the prepared and finer fibers of the bamboo, which is much in demand for clothing in tropical countries from its lightness and porosity. Another form of silk is obtained from the pods of the silk cotton tree, of which there are several varieties in existence, the material obtained from them being known as vege table silk.—Brooklyn Eagle.

It All Depends. "How long," says a contemporary, "can one live without air?"

It depends on the air. Most people could live a long time without some of the airs which have been popular during the last twelvemonth.—Exchange.

He Was His Own Grandfather Of all genealogical curiosities the one set forth below is probably the oddestsingular piece of reasoning to prove that a man may be his own grandfather! Here it is: There was a widow (Anne) and her daughter (Jane) and a man (George) and his son (Henry). This widow married the son, and the daughter married the father. The widow was therefore mother (in law) to her husband's father and grandmother to her own husband. By this husband she had a son (David), to whom she was of course great-grandmother. Now, the son of a great-grandmother must be grandfather or granduncle to the person to whom his mother was or is great-grandmother, but in this instance Anne was greatgrandmother to him (David), therefore David could not be other than his own grandfather.-St. Louis Republic.

Colonel Hale's Short Visit to Town. Colonel Hale blew into a rapidly growing western town recently and quickly grasped the fact that there was no cable With everything gone but a silk hat and \$125, he spent \$100 for admission in a swell local club and proceeded to exist on the remaining \$25. He gathered about him the leading moneyed men and laid bare the scheme of millions in a cable road. He agreed to obtain the franchise and put it through for \$30,000, part of which was to paid down as a guarantee of good faith. The colonel dusted up his silk hat and attacked the aldermen next. By dint of promising and pompous appearance of wealth he secured an ordinance, was voted stock, drew what was coming to him and blew out again, leaving every one to wonder.-St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Drummers In King Henry's Time. King Henry V had a band which discoursed sweet music during his expedition to Harfleur, each member being recompensed for his services with the sum of 13 pence per diem. When the citizens of London were mustered in the thirty-first year of the reign of Henry VIII, we hear that "before every stand-ard was appointed one dromslade at the least." Each company of 100 men at this time possessed a couple of drum-mers.—All the Year Round.

A Curious Naval Law.

A curious discovery was some years ago made among the archives at Southampton of a box containing the original naval laws of that port as early as the fourteenth century. One of them was that if the majority of the sailors of a vessel on the point of sailing were of the opinion that the wind was unfavorable, and the vessel was wrecked afterward, the captain was responsible for the value of the goods lost.—St. Louis Republic.

An Expression From a Five-year-old. Some of our present day children are startling occasionally. A little girl of 5 years recently used the expression "post-mortem judgment." Upon her brother's questioning her and insisting that she should define it, she said, "Well, if you do a thing and then afterward wish you tem judgment."-New York Times.

A Well Filled Head.

"Chappie know anything? Bah! His head is empty and always has been." "You wrong him. He had two eyes, a set of teeth and a cane handle in it last time I saw him."-Harper's Bazar.

There is no other work in the world of which so many copies are printed annually as of the Chinese almanac. The number is estimated at several millions. It is printed at Peking and is a monopoly of the emperor.



A Little Daughter

Of a Church of England minister cured of a distressing rash, by Ayer's Sarsaparilla. Mr. RICHARD BIRKS, the well-known Druggist, 207 McGill st., Montreal, P. Q., says: I have sold Ayer's Family Medicines for 40 years, and have heard nothing but

good said of them. I know of many Wonderful Cures

performed by Ayer's Sarsaparilla, one in particular being that of a little daughter of a Church of England minister. The child was literally covered from head to foot with a red and exceedingly troublesome rash, from which she had suffered for two or three years, in spite of the best medical treatment available. Her father was in great distress about the case, and, at my recommendation, at last began to administer Ayer's Sarsaparilla, two bottles of which effected a complete cure. much to her relief and her father's delight. I am sure, were he here to-day, he would testify in the strongest terms as to the merits of

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